

# **King County Draft Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

<https://your.kingcounty.gov/dnrp/library/solid-waste/about/planning/comp-plan-2018-draft.pdf>

### **Chapter 1—Introduction**

**COMMENT: None**

### **Chapter 2— The Existing Solid Waste System**

#### Policies

ES-2 Work with the division’s advisory committees, the cities, and the Solid Waste Interlocal Forum on solid waste management planning and decisions.

**COMMENT: It appears the Rural Area only is represented on the Advisory Committee by King County Council Staff?**

### **Chapter 3—Forecasting and Data**

#### Summary of Recommended Actions

3-fd County—Monitor forecast data and update as needed. *[Policies: FD-1 Monitor and report the amount, composition, and source of solid waste entering the transfer and disposal system; FD-2 Update the solid waste tonnage forecast to support short- and long-term planning and budgeting for facilities and operations; and FD-3 Monitor and report waste prevention and recycling activity, including the amount of materials recycled, programmatic achievements, and the strength of commodity markets.]*

**COMMENT: Such information should be made available to the Public for education purposes and to further the goals of the Plan.**

### **Chapter 4—Sustainable Materials Management**

#### Policies

Goal — Achieve Zero Waste of Resources – to eliminate the disposal of materials with economic value – by 2030, with an interim goal of 70 percent recycling through a combination of efforts in the following order of priority: a. Waste prevention and reuse; b. Product stewardship; c. Recycling and composting; d. Beneficial use

**COMMENT: We support this goal and the highest priority: a. Waste prevention and reuse.**

S-2 Enhance, develop, and implement waste prevention and recycling programs that will increase waste diversion from disposal using a combination of tools: a.

Infrastructure; b. Education and promotion; c. Incentives; d. Mandates; e. Enforcement; f. Partnerships

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### Summary of Recommended Actions

2-s County, cities, and other stakeholders—Provide regional education outreach support and incentive programs to overcome barriers for residents and businesses to effectively prevent waste. Emphasize the primary importance of purchase and product use decisions that prevent waste, and secondary importance of recycling items/ materials that couldn't be prevented. Work in partnership with other governments, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector to maximize the effectiveness of these efforts.

3-s County—Provide waste prevention and recycling education programs in schools throughout the county, and help schools and school districts establish, maintain, and improve the programs.

28-s Cities, county, collection companies—Continue to educate customers on proper recycling techniques to reduce contamination of recyclables and organic feedstocks going to the material recovery facilities and compost facilities.

***COMMENT: We support the use of educational methods to produce more informed consumers and producers of solid waste.***

### **Chapter 5—Solid Waste Transfer and Processing System**

***COMMENT: The trends of more and better use of Transfer Stations are encouraging as less tonnage is going to the Cedar Hills Landfill. Each of these facilities must be designed, constructed, and operated to ensure safe and convenient means for encouraging maximum recycling for private users.***

### **Chapter 6—Landfill Management and Solid Waste Disposal**

#### Policies

D-1 Operate and maintain the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill to meet or exceed the highest federal, state, and local standards for protection of public health and the environment.

D-2 Maximize the capacity and lifespan of the Cedar Hills Regional Land II, subject to engineering and environmental constraints, relative costs to operate, changes in technology, and stakeholder interests.

D-3 Monitor and maintain closed landfills to meet or exceed the highest federal, state, and local standards for protection of public health and the environment.

D-4 Plan for future disposal when Cedar Hills Regional Landfill closes to ensure no gap in service.

***COMMENT: We support these Policies with the ultimate goal being to not have to expand the Cedar Hills Landfill. We do not support the expansion of the Cedar Hills Landfill as a stop-gap solution solely to delay the inevitable day that its***

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*capacity is reached and simply defer the selection and implementation of an alternative permanent waste handling and disposal system.*

Summary of Recommended Actions

2-d County, cities, advisory committees—Select and implement a long-term disposal method from the following options:

- Develop new cells at Cedar Hills landfill;
- Waste export to an out-of-county landfill;
- Site, build, and operate a waste-to-energy facility

**COMMENT:** *We do not support any expansion of the Cedar Hills Landfill.*

**COMMENT:** *Waste reduction and energy production should be explored. Waste-to-Energy facilities are a proven technology that should be fully explored as to location, environmental, and financial viability. Proximity to rail facilities would be desirable for shipment of ash to a proper and safe final disposal location.*

*Recycling is an important component of such a facility, as is valuable materials recovery must be a component to be employed prior to final ash disposal.*

**COMMENT:** *Waste reduction by incineration alone should also be explored as to its environmental and financial viability. There is located in South Seattle on West Marginal Way a large rotary kiln that was part of the Lafarge-NA cement plant.*

*Although the basic components for incineration are present and should be useable, emission control and feed mechanisms must be designed and installed to ensure compatibility with surrounding environs. Valuable materials recovery from the ash should be a component of this type of waste reduction operation. This type of high temperature combustion facility should be capable of handling used tires, non-hazardous contaminated soil, dredge spoils, sludge, and other such wastes. This site is served by rail facilities for cost effective transport of ash to a final disposal location. Pursuant to RCW 70.95.010(8), incineration is equivalent in the disposal hierarchy to landfill and energy recovery operations.*

**COMMENT:** *Continue a strong emphasis on education, incentives, and recycling.*

**Chapter 7—Solid Waste System Finance**

**COMMENT:** *Consumers should continue to pay for the waste they generate and receive credit for the amount recycled and, thus, kept out of the waste stream. Incentives will continue to be important here.*